Synagogues of the Lower East Side - Museum of Family History

The history of American Jews is very much entwined with the history of New York City's Lower East Side. Four out of five Eastern European Jews can "trace their roots" back to New York, and the Lower East Side is often considered the "Jewish quarter" of the city. Many prominent figures in American Jewish history, such as Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook and Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik, were born and raised in the Lower East Side.

The Lower East Side played a central role in the history of American Judaism. The neighborhood was home to a large and diverse Jewish community, with synagogues, schools, and cultural institutions catering to a variety of different religious and cultural backgrounds. The neighborhood was also a center for Jewish social and political activism, with organizations such as the American Jewish Committee and the Jewish Labor Committee playing important roles in advocating for the rights of Jews and other minorities.

Today, the Lower East Side remains an important and vibrant part of New York City's Jewish community. Many historic synagogues and cultural institutions have been preserved and revitalized, and the neighborhood continues to be a hub of Jewish life and culture. Whether you're interested in history, culture, or just want to experience a unique and vibrant neighborhood, the Lower East Side is definitely worth a visit.